

# Goldsboro Weekly Argus

This ARGUS o'er the people's rights  
Doth an eternal vigil keep

No soothing strains of Maia's sons  
Can lull its hundred eyes to sleep.

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## THE STATE CONVENTION.

The Editor of the Argus Views the Great Conclave and Reviews Its Work.

The Democratic State convention that met in Greensboro on Wednesday was the greatest gathering of North Carolina Democracy I have ever witnessed, greatest in number of attendance, greatest in responsibilities resting upon it, and greatest in open, fearless fulfillment of every duty.

It is needless to discuss here the personnel of the ticket named—the Chief Justice, Hon. Walter Clark, the two Associate Justices, Hons. H. G. Connor and Platt D. Walker, the Corporation Commissioner, Mr. E. C. Beddingfield, and Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mr. J. Y. Joyner. These men were selected because of their already well-convulsed claims and recognized fitness for the respective positions to which they have been named, and any further comment on them as candidates now would be a useless waste of space in these columns and the time of our readers—further than to say that they will be triumphantly elected in November next.

But it was in its fearless presentation of the platform and its heroic adherence to democratic principles that the great convention sized up "four square" to the requirements of a great party worthy of the confidence and support of the people.

The principal controversies over the platform were as to the plank which read: "We reaffirm our allegiance to the Democratic party and its policy as enunciated in the national platform"—the opposition requesting that it should read: "We reaffirm our allegiance to the fundamental principles of the Democratic party." But the convention, after a full and free discussion of the matter, decided by an overwhelming vote that the national Democracy, with its intelligence, patriotism and fidelity to the best interests of all the people, can be trusted to make a platform, when it next convenes, upon which the North Carolina Democracy can stand with absolute faith and complete approval, and therefore the above plank as presented by the majority of the platform committee was adopted.

The next controversy was over the proposed plank providing for a State primary for the selection of U. S. Senators, and after full and comprehensive discussion it was decided, upon a roll-call vote of counties, by a sweeping majority, to eliminate this plank entirely from the platform. And, to my mind, this was as the fulfillment of prophecy in the light of one utterance in the splendid speech of Senator Simmons before the convention at its opening, and proves that the Democracy of the Old North State is as true to the Constitution of the Republic as when her legislature adopted it in 1789.

It was near the conclusion of his great and masterful speech, when every ear was alert upon his words, that Senator Simmons said: "The Democratic party was born when the nation was born. It has lived through all the annals of our history as a nation, and will continue to live as long as the Republic endures, because it is the party of the people and the Constitution." And the action of the convention on this much mooted primary question sustained the assertion of Senator Simmons.

As an American citizen who regards the Constitution as the highest manifesto of organized government; as a North Carolinian who loves his State and is proud of her traditions and her people; as a Democrat of abiding party fealty and convictions of party integrity, I am profoundly gratified that my State, which was the last but one to adopt the Constitution, has not been among the first to forsake it; for this idea of electing United States Senators by the popular vote—by the primary system—is entirely unconstitutional, and should it ever prevail—which God grant may never be—then, indeed, will

our great and glorious government—the grandest in all the earth—be in the throes of earthquake that cannot but destroy our free institutions and render our Republic a prey to communism and anarchy, in whose wake will follow revolution, sure and swift, and the utter destruction of every fabric of our constitutional guarantees of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

These are no high-sounding platitudes nor glittering generalities. Every man who has studied the ethics of popular government, who is familiar with the history—the rise and fall of governments, and who believes that the Constitution of our Republic was the outcome of inspiration—that the men who formulated it were vouchsafed Wisdom on High—knows that these are the words of soberness and truth.

There is something—there is something about this Senate of ours that appeals very profoundly to our patriotism, to our intelligence, to our own selves and to our hope of posterity—and especially profoundly to those of us who observe day by day, the working, the power, the glory of the Senate!

To me the greatest man in all the world is a United States Senator!

Why? Because he is the representative of a sovereign State—of State's rights. There is much in that!

Emblazoned upon the mightiest of all flags save one in history was the proud and boastful legend: "The Senate and the Republic of Rome."

No greater power had the old Roman Senate than has that legislative body of our own which is named for the Senate of Rome. We go further and call our splendid white palace on the high hill overlooking our national city, the Capitol, even as the Romans called their house of legislation. But even as the Senate of Rome made the way through the Capitol for the downfall of Roman greatness, our own Senate, two thousand years after Caesar and after the Christ, seems to be standing between our republic and destruction.

No enlightened man may, close at hand or far away, under the unflinching light of love of country, thoughtfully study conditions that now exist and not realize that the Senate is the power standing between us and the fading of the republic. And one misreads the signs of the times unless he sees that this great mass of four score millions of people are looking to the Senate for salvation. The Senate, we all of us know, is our last resort as freemen—as citizens of a sovereign State whose rights are infringed or liberties menaced by legislation of the lower house of Congress or the usurpation of power by any official of the government. The Senate alone remains our deliberative body. In the Senate is anchored a free people's freedom. In the Senate alone is every sovereign State equal—is State's rights recognized and maintained, regardless of population, or metes of territory, or numerical representation in the lower House. Yet, the idle-minded call the Senate "the millionaires' club."

What difference does it make if nearly a fourth of the Senators are millionaires, or that a dozen of the eighty and eight bought their seats? We still have the Senate, the bulwark of free speech, against which the changing, ephemeral, mob-law of mere politicians, and often ill-directed efforts of the House of Representatives beat vainly, where there is no limit to debate, where the sovereignty of the State is recognized and maintained and State's rights are unmenaced and untrampled.

So the convention did well—did wisely in standing by the Constitution, that gives the sovereign State the right, through its General Assembly, to choose who shall represent it in the Senate branch of the Congress of the United States.

In everything that could possibly conduce to the comfort, convenience and pleasure of the hosts of delegates assembled within her gates the Greensboro people were most solicitous to ascertain and prompt to provide, with a cheerfulness that was unfeigned and a courtesy that was the manifestation of innate good breeding and royal hospitality.

JOS. E. ROBINSON.

## STORMS IN THE WEST.

Five Deaths From Lightning In Illinois—Ripened Grain Is Beaten to the Ground and Ruined.

Chicago, July 19.—Severe storms, deadly with lightning bolts and ruinous with torrential rains, wrought millions of dollars damage through the Western States yesterday.

Five persons are known to have been killed by lightning in Illinois. Many of the outlying districts are entirely cut off from communication and the results of the storm in them cannot be fully told.

In Iowa especially the rains which fell have led to flood conditions which, it is feared, will cause more damage on the upper Mississippi than has been known in several decades.

In Illinois, Joliet is rendered a heavy sufferer by the rise of the Desplaines river, while from all through the State reports are received showing the destruction which has been done to the crops by the hail and rain, causing serious losses among the farmers. The crops, many of them just ripe for cutting, are beaten down to the earth, and where the grain has been stacked the rain has beaten in and rotted the shocks.

In Indiana and Wisconsin the storm also made its appearance, but with less force than in Iowa.

Nebraska and Colorado did not escape the deluge of rain. From two to five inches is reported in many towns in these two States, and perhaps the only welcome result of the floods, the water famine in Denver, which for a time threatened to cripple the industries of the city, is relieved.

While the west was thus suffering from storms, intolerable weather conditions elsewhere were caused by the extreme heat. Several prostrations were reported in Ohio, while the temperature was unusually high.

Indianapolis, July 19.—Northern and western counties were visited by heavy wind and rain, accompanied by unusual electric displays, last night and today. After sweeping over those sections it passed south, doing much damage in southern counties. In Grant county many of the derricks of the oil companies were blown down and demolished and a number of barns were struck by lightning. One house in Marion was wrecked. D. M. Cox and C. M. Ross were both badly injured, but not fatally.

In Delaware, Jay, Miami, Madison and Putnam counties the storm was very severe. Jacob Holloway and Georgia Holloway were so severely shocked by lightning that they may die.

Joseph Frey, near Vincennes, was killed by a bolt of lightning while at work in a field. In some of the counties the rain was accompanied by a heavy fall of hail, and whole fields of corn were broken down and stripped.

## FIFTEEN ARE DROWNED.

The People Perish Like Rats in Their Flooded Basements.

Kieff, European, Russia, July 21.—Fifteen persons were drowned yesterday by a sudden inrush of water into the basement of various houses in the lower portions of the town. A torrential rainstorm, accompanied by violent wind and rain, broke over Kieff during the afternoon and turned the streets into veritable torrents, flooding cellars and drowning their occupants before they were able to escape. Large trees were uprooted and railroad embankments were washed away, necessitating the suspension of traffic. The losses sustained are very heavy.

You can't afford to miss the Special Sale at Asher Edwards', commencing Monday July 21st and lasting until Saturday the 26th.

## THE STRIKING MINERS.

They Issue an Address and Provide For the Sinews of War.

Indianapolis, July 19.—The convention of the United Mine Workers called to consider the question of a general strike, adjourned at noon today after arranging for a defense fund that will aggregate nearly \$1,000,000 a month and issuing an address to the people of the country setting out the condition of the striking miners in the anthracite fields and appealing for additional aid in the struggle. The plan for raising a fund is really a compromise between the two modes suggested, and partakes of the nature of both a direct arbitrary levy of one dollar a week in some sections and of 10 per cent on all salaries of national, district and sub-district officers.

An important resolution introduced by President Nichols of the anthracite fields and adopted by the convention, instructs all local organizations to appoint committees to find work for the striking anthracite men, and as soon as this is done those who can obtain work are to be transported to the field of labor at the expense of the organization.

One of the anthracite delegates said that this resolution was adopted in order that some of the men who are on strike and who are restless under present conditions and likely to return to work if the strike is much further protracted, may be given work outside of the anthracite field. The address to the people of the country setting out the miners' cause is largely along the lines of former addresses and is also in the nature of a defense of the strike now in progress in Pennsylvania.

## THE MEAT COMBINE.

Progress in Consolidating Big Packing Concerns.

Chicago, July 19.—Another move in the plan to consolidate all packing interests of the country into one giant company was made today when a deal was completed that gives the trust control of big interests at Sioux City, Iowa. This was the purchase by the interests that control the Sioux City stock yards of the Sioux City Traction Company, which owns all the street-car lines in the city, with a trackage of 45 miles, and the Sioux City Gas and Electric Light Company. The companies will be merged. Swift & Co., the packers, are considered by Sioux City financial men to be the real purchasers.

That the Rockefeller millions are behind the scheme and are backing the Armour and Swift interests in the consolidation is believed to be the case in spite of denials.

## A GREAT ARMY POST.

Washington, July 19.—Secretary Root today gave the final order for the establishment of the four great military posts which are to be the gathering places of the United States forces in case of war, and in time of peace are to be great training schools for both regulars and militia men.

This, the first post, will be at Chickamauga. Secretary Root has allotted the sum of \$450,000 for the construction of a post there, calculated to accommodate one full regiment of cavalry and one company of artillery, which force is to be the nucleus of the future great military post. Gen. Boynton, president of the Chickamauga Park Commission, after some quiet negotiation, has been able to secure nearly two-thirds of the square mile of land required for the post proper and the remainder will be sought by condemnation proceedings.

As this tract adjoins the Chickamauga National Park, the troops will have the run of the ten square miles comprising that tract in large manoeuvres.

## A FURTHER EXTENSION.

Through West Virginia's Coal Fields to Ironton, Ohio.

Baltimore, July 21.—An air line from the Great Lake to the South Atlantic seaboard is made possible by a deal which has been practically consummated by the Union Trust Company of this city. The Union Trust Company has just completed arrangements to finance the extension of the old Ohio River and Charleston Railroad from the coal fields of West Virginia to Lincolnton, N. C.

It has been decided also, it is understood, to extend their road northward to Ironton, Ohio, where it will connect with the Detroit Southern, Samuel Hunt, president of the latter road, is also president of the Ohio River and Charleston, which has been recently taken over by a new company, known as the South and Western.

At Lincolnton the road will connect with the Seaboard Air Line, with which company close agreements for the inter-change of traffic have been made.

The line will be the shortest from the West Virginia coal fields to the sea and if the extension to Ironton is built, it will give the Seaboard an independent and short route to the Great Lakes.

## SIX MILLIONS DAMAGE.

Loss Much Greater Than Before—Rivers Falling at One Place, and Rising in Another.

Keokuk, Iowa, July 21.—The height of the flood in the Mississippi River was reached today south of here. The river fell an inch and a half at Keokuk today and the fall will reach southern points by tomorrow. But the rise of a foot more in the vicinity of Canton, Quincy, LaGrange and Hannibal carried the water over thousands of acres previously uninjured. The highest water is between LaGrange and Gregory, where the water on Sunday was well below the rails of the St. Louis, Keokuk and Northwestern Railway on the bank of the river. A flood is pouring over the tracks today and reaching to the steps of the coaches. The roadbed is good and trains are delayed only by slow running through water. Farmers report a much greater loss than before, but estimates approximating \$6,000,000 damage over seventy-five miles of river frontage will not be changed greatly.

The river here is full of debris. South of here the flotsam includes thousands of rabbits as passengers on logs, pieces of houses and other wreckage.

## AFTER 75 YEARS.

Raleigh Times.

Mrs. C. R. Holleman, of this city, who is 90 years old, was among the large congregation who heard Rev. Frank Dixon preach at the First Baptist church yesterday morning. Seventy-five years ago Mrs. Holleman attended the First Baptist church of Hartford, Conn., of which Mr. Dixon is now pastor. That was over 40 years before the present pastor was born. Mr. Dixon took charge of the work there about four years ago.

## REHEARSING.

London, July 18.—An official notification was issued this morning that at the King's command the coronation of King Edward and Queen Alexandra will take place August 9. Rehearsals of the procession from Buckingham palace to Westminster Abbey took place this morning. The officials of the various state departments concerned in the abbey ceremony are again busy with preparations for the crowning.

## NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOLS

FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Progressive Farmer.

It will astonish the average North Carolinian to learn how much progress the State had made in educational matters before the beginning of the Civil War, and how serious was the relapse resulting from the war and Reconstruction. When we consider with what exceedingly great joy we, here in the dawn of the twentieth century, have hailed the coming of the long-promised four months' term in every district, it is interesting to turn to the first report of Dr. Calvin H. Wiley, Superintendent of Public Instruction, issued about 1855, and read:

"The average time during which all the schools are taught in the year, for the whole State is about four months. \* \* \* For nearly every four square miles of territory in the State, there is a schoolhouse, and of our fifty thousand square miles not one hundredth part of it is out of the reach of the schools. There are perhaps two thousand school houses—and from Currituck to Cherokee they are accessible to more than ninety-nine hundredths of our population, reaching to the shores of every lake and river, to the heart of every swamp, and to the top of every mountain."

Means and opportunities considered our ancestors did a greater work than we are doing.

## PUBLIC LEDGER SOLD.

Over Two and One Quarter Million Dollars Involved in the Transaction.

Philadelphia, July 21.—The Philadelphia Public Ledger was today purchased by Adolph S. Ochs, from George W. Childs Drexel and the Drexel estate and possessions was at once given Mr. Ochs. The purchase includes all the Public Ledger estate comprising about half a block of property on Chestnut and Sixth street, facing Independence Hall. The price paid is not made public, but it is stated on good authority that over two and one quarter million dollars are involved in the transaction. Mr. Ochs has no associates in the transaction except that a substantial interest has been acquired by James M. Beck, of Philadelphia, who represented the purchaser in the negotiations. There is no underwriting and with the exception of Mr. Beck's interest, Mr. Ochs is the sole owner.

The new owner says there will be no radical changes in the appearance or policy of the Public Ledger.

L. Clark Davis will continue as editor and John Norris, of the New York Times, will for the present act as business manager.

## HURRICANE IN BALTIMORE.

Baltimore, July 20.—A fierce tornado, characterized by a windstorm of extraordinary velocity, thunder, vivid lightning and a heavy rain, suddenly burst upon Baltimore at 1:30 p. m. today, coming from the southwest, with the net result that 11 persons lost their lives, hundreds of houses were unroofed, trees in the public parks and streets were torn up by the roots, many buildings damaged and several people injured. The storm exhausted its fury in less than 15 minutes.

## Sick Headache?

Food doesn't digest well? Appetite poor? Bowels constipated? Tongue coated? It's your liver! Ayer's Pills are liver pills; they cure dyspepsia, biliousness.

25c. All druggists.

Want your mustache or beard a beautiful brown or rich black? Then use BUCKINGHAM'S DYE for the Whiskers. 50 CTS. OF DRUGGISTS, OR R. P. HALL & CO., BALTIMORE, N. H.